Template for letter to legislators:

To Governor Cuomo, and NYS Legislators:

As a resident of a rural community in Western New York, I implore you and other legislators to immediately declare a moratorium on further large scale development of energy projects under Article 10.  My community is currently under attack by developers of solar energy who are given tremendous leverage under Article 10 over local residents who are concerned about preserving prime farmland, their rural communities and the quality of life they presently enjoy. There are little to no protections for all the citizens whose personal residences are adjacent to these planned commercial facilities.

**Priority siting guidelines must be established** to exhaust other developable property, e.g., brownfields, former landfills, former industrial sites, commercial rooftops and otherwise industrially zoned locations before being allowed to use prime farmland for their projects.

The Governor has stated, “New York’s agricultural industry is an integral part of our economy, so it is critical that we preserve our farmland and protect this valuable resource from overdevelopment.”  Provide incentives for developers to use non-productive land; not to destroy prime farmland. Insist on using industrially zoned locations for commercial development.

Thousands of acres of prime farmland in central/western NY are at serious risk of being destroyed by this development.  My community is not anti-solar; we support using alternate energy, but we must be smarter about how we do this.

Respectfully submitted,

(Insert name and address)

The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo  
Governor of New York State  
NYS State Capitol Building  
Albany, NY 12224



Contact us by phone:

[1-518-474-8390](tel:15184748390)

**NYS Senate – local members**

**Funke, Rich** 55th Senatorial District, R-C-I-REF

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**Gallivan, Patrick M.** 59th Senatorial District, R-C-I-REF

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**NYS Assembly – local members**

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